

Scoring Rubric

STEM Tales Rubric	4	3	2	1	Score/Comments
<p>Narrative Question 1: Involvement in STEM Programming</p>	<p>Library provides a detailed description of their STEM programming (or plans to start STEM programming), including at least one example of STEM topics they have or will offer to their community with specified age groups, including outreach and Take & Make kits. Library also gives several examples of how working with the STEM Tales project will further the library's initiatives in STEM education.</p>	<p>Library provides a description of their STEM programming (or plans to start STEM programming) with one example of STEM topics offered to their community and describes how participation in this project will support library goals/initiatives.</p>	<p>Library either provides a description of their STEM programming (or plans to start STEM programming) OR how they envision the project will support their library's STEM goals/initiatives, but not both.</p>	<p>Library does not clearly describe their STEM programming (or plans to start STEM programming) and does not identify how participation in this project will support library STEM goals/initiatives.</p>	
<p>Narrative Question 3: Interest in Digital Media Elements</p>	<p>Library describes a clear interest in utilizing digital media in programs and outlines several ways this programming will impact their community.</p>	<p>Library shows interest in utilizing digital media in programs and has identified one way this programming will impact their community.</p>	<p>Library shows interest in utilizing digital media in programs OR how this programming will impact their community, but not both.</p>	<p>Library response does not demonstrate an interest in utilizing digital media in programs and does not address how this programming will impact their community.</p>	

<p>Narrative Question 4. Experience with Diverse Communities</p>	<p>Library describes a detailed plan for engaging members of the community who are historically underrepresented in STEM fields with examples of how they will engage specific community members (including Hispanic or Latino/a/x, Black or African American, and Indigenous communities). Library describes two or more community partnerships that can help them reach these communities.</p>	<p>Library provides a clear plan for engaging members of the community historically underrepresented in STEM fields and identifies one partnership that can help them reach these communities.</p>	<p>Library provides a clear plan for engaging members of the community historically underrepresented in STEM fields OR identifies partnerships that can help them reach these communities, but not both.</p>	<p>Library response does not provide an adequate plan for engaging members of the community who are historically underrepresented in STEM fields and does not mention any community partnerships that can help them reach these communities.</p>	
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Additional Demographics Considerations	4	3	2	1	Score/Comments
Community Demographics	<p>Community demographics demonstrate need through four of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Language spoken other than English >25% · Persons in poverty >15% · Household income <\$50,000 · High School graduation <80% 	<p>Community demographics demonstrate need through three of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Language spoken other than English >25% · Persons in poverty >15% · Household income <\$50,000 · High School graduation <80% 	<p>Community demographics demonstrate need through two of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Language spoken other than English >25% · Persons in poverty >15% · Household income <\$50,000 · High School graduation <80% 	<p>Community demographics demonstrate need through one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Language spoken other than English >25% · Persons in poverty >15% · Household income <\$50,000 · High School graduation <80% 	

Overall Application	4	4	2	1	Score/Comments
	<p>Library answers all application prompts, required letters of support indicate library and community buy-in, and responses indicate a strong interest in and commitment to carrying out project activities. Application demonstrates strong need for resources to support STEM opportunities in community. Application clearly and explicitly demonstrates that library has sufficient staff and/or volunteer support to carry out project activities.</p>	<p>Library answers all application prompts, has strong letters of support, and indicates commitment to carrying out project activities. Application indicates that library has sufficient staff and/or volunteer support to carry out project activities.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Application is missing some detail or lacks strong support letters, but still demonstrates strong need for resources to support STEM opportunities in community.</p>	<p>Library mostly answers application prompts and indicates strong interest but is missing one required document. Application is unclear regarding staff/volunteer support.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Library has completed the application, but answers or attachments do not convincingly demonstrate library interest or need.</p>	<p>Library does not adequately answer application prompts, does not include letters of support, and/or does not demonstrate interest in or capacity to carry out project activities. Application does not indicate staff or volunteer support.</p>	

Total Score:

Comments/Concerns:

Application Review

Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- The size and demographics of the community. *The selection committee will prioritize submissions from areas with above average populations of demographics defined by the National Science Foundation as underrepresented in STEM (Hispanic or Latino/a/x, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander). Additional consideration will be given to libraries that demonstrate need for resources to support learning in their community (e.g., low median household income and/or education levels).*
- Evidence that the site has support from the library administration and community in planning for the program and that participation in the program aligns to library goals or desired outcomes regarding STEM education.
- Evidence that the site is committed to prioritizing diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility and can reach audiences underrepresented in STEM and market the program to those audiences effectively.
- Evidence that the site has the capacity to carry out programming requirements, including the interest and capacity to utilize digital media in facilitating programs for children ages 4-8.

Review and Selection Process

Each application will be assessed by a panel of STEM Tales project staff. Final decisions will be made by STEM Tales project staff with other considerations such as geographic distribution (the committee seeks to evenly distribute the grants across three regions, with a mix of urban, suburban, and rural areas) and community demographics.

Applicants are encouraged to address questions about the selection guidelines, process, and requirements to Claire Ratcliffe Adams at cratcliffe@spacescience.org